



Department of Justice

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District of Massachusetts

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ROCKLAND MAN CHARGED WITH IMPERSONATING A FEDERAL AGENT AND MAKING FALSE STATEMENTS

Boston, MA... A Massachusetts man was charged today with bypassing security at Logan Airport and boarding a commercial flight through an exit lane by pretending to be an armed federal agent.

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan, George Naccara, Federal Security Director for the Transportation Security Administration in Boston and Warren T. Bamford, Special Agent in Charge of Federal Bureau of Investigation - Boston Field Office, announced today that **STEPHEN GRANT**, 48, of Rockland, Massachusetts, was charged by complaint with falsely impersonating a federal agent and making false statements.

According to the Affidavit, **GRANT**, Director of Sales for a medical supply company in Rockland, flew on business from Boston's Logan Airport to San Diego, California on January 1, 2007. The Affidavit alleges that when **GRANT** approached the American Airlines ticket counter, he flashed a badge that he carried on account of his part-time job as an assistant harbor master for the Town of Chatham. The Affidavit alleges that **GRANT** filled out a flying-while-armed form, indicating that he was traveling armed, and listed his agency as the Department of Homeland Security, neither of which was true. According to the Affidavit, **GRANT** used the flying-while-armed form, and his badge, to bypass security and board the plane through an exit lane.

The Affidavit further alleges that on **GRANT**'s return flight from San Diego to Boston on January 4, 2007, he again falsely stated to airline personnel that he was a Department of Homeland Security agent flying armed. The Affidavit alleges that as a result of these false statements, **GRANT** was invited into the cockpit, was told the identity of the two Air Marshals on the flight, and was informed who else on the plane was armed.

GRANT was arrested today on the charges and will appear in court later today before U.S. Magistrate Judge Judith G. Dein. The charge of impersonating a federal agent carries a maximum penalty of 3 years' imprisonment. The charge of making false statements carries a maximum penalty of five years' imprisonment. Both charges also carry a maximum three-year term of supervised release and a fine of up to \$250,000.

The case was investigated by the Transportation Security Administration and the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney William D. Weinreb of Sullivan's National Security and Antiterrorism Division.

The details contained in the Complaint are allegations. The defendant is presumed to be innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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